

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 14-31 have been added, thus claims 10-31 are now pending and under consideration.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Response and Preliminary Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 10/20/03

By: John H. Stowe

John H. Stowe

Registration No. 32,863

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501